

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yoshitaka HAYASHI et al.

Appln. No.:

Filed: Herewith

For: STARTING CLUTCH AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE SAME

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified
patent application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 3, 8, 9, 17, 26, 35, 39, 49, 61, 69
and 72 as set forth below.

- 1 3. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 1,
- 2 wherein the lock mechanism for locking the reactive force from
- 3 said inner portion comprises a one-way clutch.

1 8. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 4,
2 wherein a bearing mechanism intervenes between the clutch case
3 of said first clutch and the hub.

1 9. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 4,
2 wherein a bearing mechanism intervenes between the clutch case
3 of said second clutch and the hub.

1 17. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 13,
2 wherein said each member are connected by a spline fitting.

1 26. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 23,
2 wherein the member connected to said carrier is the hub of the
3 second clutch.

1 35. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 32,
2 further comprising oil temperature detection means, wherein a
3 mechanism for regulating the opening amount of the valve by
4 the detected oil temperature is provided.

1 39. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 37,
2 wherein said biasing means or biasing regulating means is a
3 spring member.

1 49. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 47,
2 wherein the piston is separated from a frictionally engaging
3 element by the operation of said cylinder.

1 61. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 59,
2 wherein a lubricant oil passage which communicates with said
3 output shaft from said fixed element is provided.

1 69. (Amended) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 67, wherein, when the operating mechanism
3 is completely ON, the first clutch and the second clutch are
4 fastened together and, when the operating mechanism is
5 completely OFF, the first clutch and the second clutch are
6 released.

1 72. (Amended) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 67, wherein, when the operating mechanism
3 is completely OFF, the first and the second clutches are
4 fastened and, when the operating mechanism is completely ON,
5 the first and the second clutches are released.

Please add the following claims:

1 75. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 2,
2 wherein the lock mechanism for locking the reactive force from
3 said inner portion comprises a one-way clutch.

1 76. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 5,
2 wherein a bearing mechanism intervenes between the clutch case
3 of said first clutch and the hub.

1 77. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 5,
2 wherein a bearing mechanism intervenes between the clutch case
3 of said second clutch and the hub.

1 78. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 14,
2 wherein said each member are connected by a spline fitting.

1 79. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 15,
2 wherein said each member are connected by a spline fitting.

1 80. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 16,
2 wherein said each member are connected by a spline fitting.

1 81. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 24,
2 wherein the member connected to said carrier is the hub of the
3 second clutch.

1 82. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 25,
2 wherein the member connected to said carrier is the hub of the
3 second clutch.

1 83. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 33,
2 further comprising oil temperature detection means, wherein a
3 mechanism for regulating the opening amount of the valve by
4 the detected oil temperature is provided.

1 84. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 34,
2 further comprising oil temperature detection means, wherein a
3 mechanism for regulating the opening amount of the valve by
4 the detected oil temperature is provided.

1 85. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 38,
2 wherein said biasing means or biasing regulating means is a
3 spring member.

1 86. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 85,
2 wherein said spring member is a Belleville spring.

1 87. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 48,
2 wherein the piston is separated from a frictionally engaging
3 element by the operation of said cylinder.

1 88. (New) A starting clutch according to claim 60,
2 wherein a lubricant oil passage which communicates with said
3 output shaft from said fixed element is provided.

1 89. (New) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 68, wherein, when the operating mechanism
3 is completely ON, the first clutch and the second clutch are
4 fastened together and, when the operating mechanism is
5 completely OFF, the first clutch and the second clutch are
6 released.

1 90. (New) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 89, wherein said first clutch is fastened
3 or slidably moved in a half operating state intermediate
4 between said completely ON and completely OFF.

1 91. (New) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 89, wherein said second clutch is fastened
3 or slidably moved in a half operating state intermediate
4 between said completely ON and completely OFF.

1 92. (New) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 68, wherein, when the operating mechanism
3 is completely OFF, the first and the second clutches are
4 fastened and, when the operating mechanism is completely ON,
5 the first and the second clutches are released.

1 93. (New) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 92, wherein said operating mechanism
3 fastens or slidably moves the first clutch only in a half
4 operating state intermediate between said completely ON and
5 completely OFF.

1 94. (New) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 90, wherein a creep is generated by said
3 first clutch slidably moving.

REMARKS

Claims 3, 8, 9, 17, 26, 35, 39, 49, 61, 69 and 72 have been amended to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge. Claims 75-94 presented herein correspond to the dependencies eliminated from the amended claims.

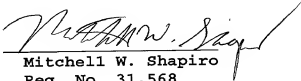
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 5, 2001

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CLAIMS:

1 3. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 1 [or
2 2], wherein the lock mechanism for locking the reactive force
3 from said inner portion comprises a one-way clutch.

1 8. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 4 [or
2 5], wherein a bearing mechanism intervenes between the clutch
3 case of said first clutch and the hub.

1 9. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 4 [or
2 5], wherein a bearing mechanism intervenes between the clutch
3 case of said second clutch and the hub.

1 17. (Amended) A starting clutch according to [any one
2 of] claim[s] 13 [to 16], wherein said each member are
3 connected by a spline fitting.

1 26. (Amended) A starting clutch according to [any one
2 of] claim[s] 23 [to 25], wherein the member connected to said
3 carrier is the hub of the second clutch.

1 35. (Amended) A starting clutch according to [any one
2 of] claim[s] 32 [to 34], further comprising oil temperature
3 detection means, wherein a mechanism for regulating the
4 opening amount of the valve by the detected oil temperature is
5 provided.

1 39. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 37
2 [or 38], wherein said biasing means or biasing regulating
3 means is a spring member.

1 49. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 47
2 [or 48], wherein the piston is separated from a frictionally
3 engaging element by the operation of said cylinder.

1 61. (Amended) A starting clutch according to claim 59
2 [or 60], wherein a lubricant oil passage which communicates
3 with said output shaft from said fixed element is provided.

1 69. (Amended) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 67 [or 68], wherein, when the operating
3 mechanism is completely ON, the first clutch and the second
4 clutch are fastened together and, when the operating mechanism

5 is completely OFF, the first clutch and the second clutch are
6 released.

1 72. (Amended) A control method of a starting clutch
2 according to claim 67 [or 68], wherein, when the operating
3 mechanism is completely OFF, the first and the second clutches
4 are fastened and, when the operating mechanism is completely
5 ON, the first and the second clutches are released.